Docket No. PHFR000090

Amendment Serial No. 09/942,017

REMARKS

Entry of this Amendment, reconsideration and withdrawal of all grounds of rejection, and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested in light of the amendments made to the claims and the remarks made herein.

Claims 1-4 are pending and stand rejected. Claim 2 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the noted rejection.

Claims 1-4 have been amended. No new matter has bee added.

The examiner has objected to the Abstract because of errors in form.

Applicant thanks the examiner for his observation and has amended the Abstract according.

Having amended the Abstract to correct its form, applicant submits that the reason for the examiner's objection has been overcome. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 1, 3 and 4 stand rejected under 35 USC §101. It is the examiner's position that the claims are directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the examiner. However, in the interest of advancing the prosecution of this matter, applicant has elected to amend the claims to more clearly state the invention. More specifically, applicant has amended the claims to state that the processes recited are performed in a computer system, which is attuned to the examiner's suggestion with regard to claim 3.

Having amended the claims, applicant respectfully submits that the reason for the examiner's rejection of the claims has been overcome and can no longer be sustained. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the claims.

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph as being indefinite. It is the examiner's position that the words "if any" in the last line of each claim presents ambiguity.

Applicant thanks the examiner for his observation and has amended the claims to more clearly state the invention.

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Having amended the claims appropriately, applicant submits that the reason for the examiner rejection has been overcome and can no longer be sustained. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the claims.

Applicant thanks the examiner for his indication of allowable subject matter in claim 2, if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Further, applicant believes that the examiner's rationale with regard to claim 3 also place this claim in an allowable form after appropriate correction has been.

In view of the amendments made to the claims herein, applicant believes that that all the claims are in an allowable form.

For all the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all the present claims are patentable. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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